Michael O. Leavitt Governor Kathleen Clarke Executive Director Lowell P. Braxton Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 PO Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-7223 (TDD)

February 7, 2000

Ron Ryan SF Phosphates Ltd. Company 9701 North Highway 191 Vernal, Utah 84078-7802

Re: Permit Review Status, SF Phosphates, Tailings Amendment, Vernal Phosphate Mine, M/047/007,

Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Ryan:

On December 13, 1999, we received SF Phosphates's response to our May 20, 1999 letter regarding the amendment to expand the tailings storage facility. Due to a backlog of other permit reviews, the Division has not been able to complete a review of this response within the usual 30-day timeframe. We apologize for the delay and any inconvenience this may cause you.

We hope to complete our review of your application within the next 30-45 days. We appreciate your patience and understanding in this regard. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns with this proposed review schedule.

Sincerely,

Joelle Burns

Minerals Secretary

jb

cc: Pete Sokolosky, BLM, Vernal FO (UTU-76097)

M47-07-late